

To: calfedda@water.ca.gov
Subject: SUMMARY OF THE DAT CONFERENCE CALL WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1999
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The next DAT Conference Call will be Wednesday, December 1, from 10a - 12 noon.

The number is 657-4111.

SUMMARY OF DAT CONFERENCE CALL WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1999

Participants: Mark Pierce, Paul Hanna, Jim White, Deborah McKee, Michele Simpson, Sheila Greene, Dave Robinson, Paul Fujitani, Scott Siegfried

CHINOOK SALMON MONITORING

SALMON MONITORING

Upper Sacramento River

GCID - Catch at GCID increased over the last week. The yearling catch averaged about 11 per day. 13 adipose fin clipped Chinook were caught. They were likely from the Coleman late-fall release 11/12/99.

Spring Run Tributaries

Mill Creek - 11 yearling Chinook were caught in October. The last chinook was captured 10/30. No more chinook were caught throughout two storms.

Deer Creek - 4 yearlings were caught 11/20 and 11/22. 66 yearling chinook were captured in October early November.

Butte Creek - A few yearlings were caught last week. 500 yearling chinook were captured October through 11/08.

Lower Sacramento River

Tisdale Weir - No Chinook have been caught in past three weeks. Two yearlings have been caught this season, on 11/3 and 11/5.

Knights Landing - No Chinook have been caught in the past three weeks. One yearling chinook was caught 11/3.

Delta

Lower Sacramento River Beach Seines - No Chinook have been caught in the past three weeks. One winter run size was caught 11/5.

Sacramento Trawl - 1 yearling was caught on 11/8. Prior to that the last Chinook was caught in September.

Sacramento Area Beach Seines - No salmon have been caught.

Delta Beach Seines - No salmon have been caught.

Chipps Island - 2 Chinook, 135mm-167mm, were caught Monday, 11/15. Prior to that 10 yearlings were caught in late October and early November.

Mossdale - Trawl started Monday, 10/18. No salmon have been caught.

SWP and CVP Salvage Facilities

6 Chinook were salvaged last week. Prior to that the last yearling sized Chinook was salvaged 10/18.

AFRP DELTA ACTION 8 DECEMBER EXPERIMENT

The Delta Action 8 Smolt Survival Experiment for December is scheduled to occur in December, depending on hydrologic conditions and indicators of in-river yearling chinook emigration. The indicator described by the b(2) Implementation Team (B2IT) was observation of 10 yearling Chinook in the Delta and at the export facilities beginning December 1. The DAT and B2IT discussed the indicators and modified them to observation of 10 yearling Chinook within 7 days beginning now. The indicator is sensitive and considered a guideline to initiate discussion of the most efficient use of b(2) water and the timing of the smolt survival experiment. The DAT and B2IT did not schedule a date to start a b(2) export reduction or smolt survival experiment based on today's information.

DELTA CROSS CHANNEL GATE OPERATIONS

The Spring Run Protection Plan indicator to close the Delta Cross Channel Gates before December 1 is observation of yearling Chinook entering the Delta. Based on yearlings observed in the tributaries, DAT expects the observation would likely be made over the long Thanksgiving weekend and will be available by pagers. Water quality has been improving, but DWR expected a spring tide over the Thanksgiving weekend could degrade water quality. The USBR will notify their operators to prepare for a possible gate closure over the weekend. AFTER THE CALL 44 YEARLINGS WERE CAUGHT AT TISDALE AND 3 AT KNIGHTS LANDING. DFG NOTIFIED USBR AND DWR AND THE GATES WERE CLOSED 11/26.

OPERATIONS

DWR may reduce Oroville releases in the near future based on proposed export reductions and excess inflow. The Oroville release would be reduced from 2,450 cfs to 1,700 cfs.

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